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a teetotaler, and agitated the subject of temperance whenever opportunity offered. He took up the work of "ragged schools," in which both the bodies and souls of the poor were cared for. And when his voice failed him, he still continued to use his pen, and became the popular and successful editor of the *Sunday Magazine*. His life is full of valuable lessons for the preacher, pastor, and sociologist. And this small volume, which the busiest can read, attractively presents the whole career of Dr. Guthrie, who was in the highest and best sense truly great.—GALUSHA ANDERSON.

*A Short History of the Free Churches.* By Rev. J. A. Houlder. (London: R. D. Dickinson, 1899; pp. xiii + 240; 2s. 6d.) This little volume covers the history of the growth of religious freedom from 1366 to our own times, or 1898. The sketch is brief but painstaking, and it will prove useful to all who wish to acquaint themselves with the leading facts of free-church history.—J. W. MONCRIEF.

*Die heilige Taufe und der Taufschatz in deutschem Glauben und Recht, in der Sitte des Volks und der Kirche, in deutscher Sage und Dichtung.* Von Dr. A. Freybe. (Gütersloh: C. Bertelsmann, 1900; pp. xii + 302; M. 4.20.) The task the author of this book has set for himself is a difficult one because of its vastness; he endeavors to show the position Christian baptism has held in the religious faith, laws, customs, liturgy, sagas, and literature of the German people from the time of their acceptance of Christianity to the present day. Notwithstanding the vastness of the subject, he has succeeded in writing a very interesting book. Objection might be made to his treatment of baptism in the apostolic churches, in that he here falls into the all too common blunder of reading the sacramental ideas of the second and subsequent centuries into the time of Jesus and his disciples. This he does in the opening chapter of the book, and once again this conception of the meaning of Christian baptism appears in chap. x, where he deems it necessary to make an application to present-day tendencies. In its historical references the book is a veritable treasure-house of facts carefully gathered and admirably grouped. He gives us the references to Christian baptism in German poetry from the *Heliand* to the Reformation, including the folk-songs and the saga of the golden cradle. He shows how the penalty for the refusal to submit to baptism came to be incorporated with civil law, and how the German people came to believe in the absolute necessity of baptism for their